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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: K. THOMAS et al.

Application No.: 09/898,255

Group Art Unit: 2876

Filed: July 3, 2001

Examiner: Daniel St Cyr

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM OF  
SETTING AN/OR CONTROLLING OF A  
FOOD PRODUCT DISPENSING MACHINE  
USING A TAG-TYPE COMMUNICATION  
DEVICE

Attorney Docket No.: 88265-4040

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 and the Examiner's request, applicants submit herewith fifteen (15) references for the Examiner's review and consideration. Fourteen (14) of the references were previously listed on PTO 1449 forms but were not considered by the Examiner because copies were not provided. Accordingly, these copies are now submitted herewith. One new reference, namely, US patent application 2002/0059175-A1, is also submitted herewith, although it may not be prior art to the present claims.

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), an Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office if filed before the mailing date of the first Official Action on the merits. Thereafter, an Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered if it is accompanied by the requisite fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17. Please charge Winston & Strawn Deposit Account No. 501-813 the fee of \$180.00 for submission of this IDS after a first Action on the merits.

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Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and make of record the documents cited herein. Applicants further request that a copy of the Form PTO-1449, appropriately initialed by the Examiner, be returned to Applicants' attorney.

Date: 4-8-03

Respectfully submitted,



Allan A. Fanucci      Reg. No. 30,256

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